

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 AEC-11 AID-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00

CIEP-02 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-11 FEA-02 FPC-01 H-03

INR-10 INT-08 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 OMB-01 PM-07 RSC-01

SAM-01 SCI-06 SPC-03 SS-20 STR-08 TRSE-00 PA-04 PRS-01

USIA-15 DRC-01 /184 W

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R 181737Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY MADRID

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8436

INFO AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

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STATE ALSO FOR T/IEP

BEIRUT PASS USINT BAGHDAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG, SP

SUBJECT: ENERGY: MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY HEADS GOS PETROLEUM
DELEGATION ON VISIT TO IRAQ

REF A. STATE 48335 B. MADRID 1059

1. THE NEW MINISTER OF INDUSTRY, ALFREDO SANTOS BLANCO,
LEFT MADRID MAR 18 FOR A VISIT TO BAGHDAD AS THE HEAD
OF A LARGE GOS DELEGATION. THE VISIT IS SAID TO BE IN
RESPONSE TO AN INVITATION EXTENDED BY THE IRAQI AMBASSADOR
TO SPAIN ON BEHALF OF IRAQ'S MINISTER OF INDUSTRY AND
COMES IN CONNECTION WITH THE DELIVERY OF THE "GIFT" OF
35,000 TONS OF PETROLEUM TO THE GOS. THE PURPOSE OF THE
TRIP IS REPORTEDLY TO DEVELOP AN ECONOMIC AND INDUSTRIAL

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COOPERATION PROGRAM AS WELL AS TO ASSURE SUPPLIES OF
IRAQI CRUDE OIL TO SPAIN. THE POSSIBILITY OF AN EXPLORA-

TION AND PRODUCTION AGREEMENT IS ALSO ON THE AGENDA.

2. ACCOMPANYING THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY IS FRANCISCO FERNANDEZ ORDONEZ, PRESIDENT OF INI, THE GOVERNMENT HOLDING COMPANY, JOSE LUIS CERON, MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC RELATIONS, JOSE LUIS DIAZ FERNANDEZ, DIRECTOR GENERAL OF ENERGY IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY, AND AGUSTIN HIDALGO DE QUINTANA, TRADE POLICY DIRECTOR GENERAL IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE. REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE SHIP BUILDING, MACHINE TOOL, CONSTRUCTION, STEEL AND ENGINEERING INDUSTRIES ALSO ARE ON THE GOS TEAM. NO ONE FROM THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE IS PARTICIPATING IN THIS TRIP EVEN THOUGH IT WAS ONCE THOUGHT THAT FINANCE MINISTER BARRERA DE IRIMO WOULD BE INVOLVED IN A TRIP OF THIS NATURE (SEE REF B).

3. IT HAS BEEN LONG MENTIONED THAT SAUDI ARABIA WOULD BE ON THE ITINERARY OF THE JUNKETING SPANISH GOVERNMENT DELEGATION. HOWEVER, THIS HAS NOT BEEN FULLY CONFIRMED.

4. IN A RECENT CONVERSATION WITH AN EMBOFF, DIRECTOR GENERAL CERON SAID THAT THE GOS TEAM WOULD BE SEEKING TO MAKE BILATERAL DEALS WITH THE ARAB PETROLEUM PRODUCERS. HE OBSERVED THAT, AFTER ALL, WHY SHOULDN'T THEY DO THIS SINCE THEY WERE NOT INCLUDED BY WASHINGTON IN THE ENERGY COORDINATING GROUP MEETINGS. INI PRESIDENT, FERNANDEZ ORDONEZ, ON THE OTHER HAND, SAID THAT SPAIN WOULD DEFINITELY NOT MAKE ANY BILATERAL DEALS IN THE FRENCH FASHION, BUT RATHER WOULD SEEK TO FOLLOW THE GUIDELINES LAID DOWN IN THIS AREA BY THE ENRGY COORDINATING GROUP.

4. A HIGH LEVEL FINANCE MINISTRY OFFICIAL TOLD AN EMBOFF THAT ONE REASON FINANCE MINISTER BARRERA WAS NOT GOING ON THE TRIP WAS SO AS NOT TO GIVE THE IMPRESSION THAT HE WAS INVOLVED IN BILATERAL DEAL-MAKING AND THEREBY AVOID APPEARING TO BE GOING CONTRARY TO THE DESIRES OF WASHINGTON RIVERO

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PETROLEUM, IMPORTS, LESS DEVELOPED COUNTRIES, FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 MAR 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974MADRID01778
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: MADRID
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740336/aaaabhfn.tel
Line Count: 97
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: A. STATE 48335 B. MADRID 1059
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 12 JUN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <12 JUN 2002 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <27 JUN 2002 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ENERGY: MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY HEADS GOS PETROLEUM DELEGATION ON VISIT TO IRAQ
TAGS: ENRG, SP, (CORTINA MAURI, PEDRO)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005